

Message Text

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41

ACTION IO-13

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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9199

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

USMISSION GENEVA

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UNCLAS VIENNA 6236

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: AORG, UN, AU

SUBJECT: CABINET APPROVES CONFERENCE CENTER FOR DONAU PARK

REF: GENEVA 5902

1. AUSTRIAN CABINET DECIDED JULY 20 TO BUILD CONFERENCE CENTER WITHIN DONAU PARK COMPLEX. WORK ON CONFERENCE CENTER, WHICH WILL HAVE TOTAL CAPACITY OF 8,000 PERSONS AND MAIN HALL SEATING 4,000, IS BE BEGIN IN 1978 WITH COMPLETION SCHEDULED FOR 1983. ACCORDING TO PRESS, DECISION WAS MOTIVATED BY FACT THAT FACILITIES IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS SECTION AT DONAU PARK WOULD BE INADEQUATE FOR GENERAL CONFERENCES OF UNIDO AND IAEA AND BY FACT THAT LACK OF ADEQUATE CONVENTION FACILITIES IN VIENNA HAD PREVENTED CITY FROM ATTRACTING SEVERAL MAJOR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES.

2. ACCORDING TO GOA, CONVENTION CENTER WILL COST 4.5 BILLION SCHILLINGS, OF WHICH GOA WILL FUND 65 PERCENT AND CITY OF VIENNA 35 PERCENT, AND TOTAL COST OF DONAU PARK COMPLEX WILL RISE TO 17.3 BILLION SCHILLINGS. (APPROXIMATELY AS 18.40 EQUALS US 1.00).

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3. OPPOSITION PEOPLE'S PARTY HAS SAID TOTAL COST,

WITH FINANCING, WILL NOW BE OVER 20 BILLION SCHILLINGS.
AND CALLED CABINET'S DECISION UNACCEPTABLE IN VIEW OF
ALREADY EXCESSIVE FEDERAL BUDGET DEFICITS.

4. COMMENT: SOCIALIST MAJORITIES IN PARLIAMENT AND
VIENNA CITY COUNCIL ARE CERTAIN TO APPROVE DECISION
AND FUNDING. TRINKA

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